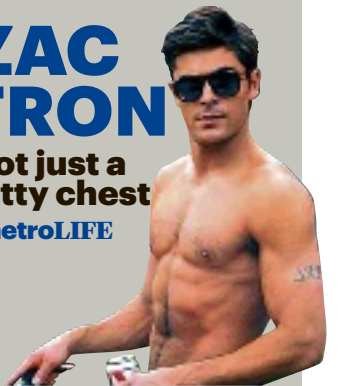


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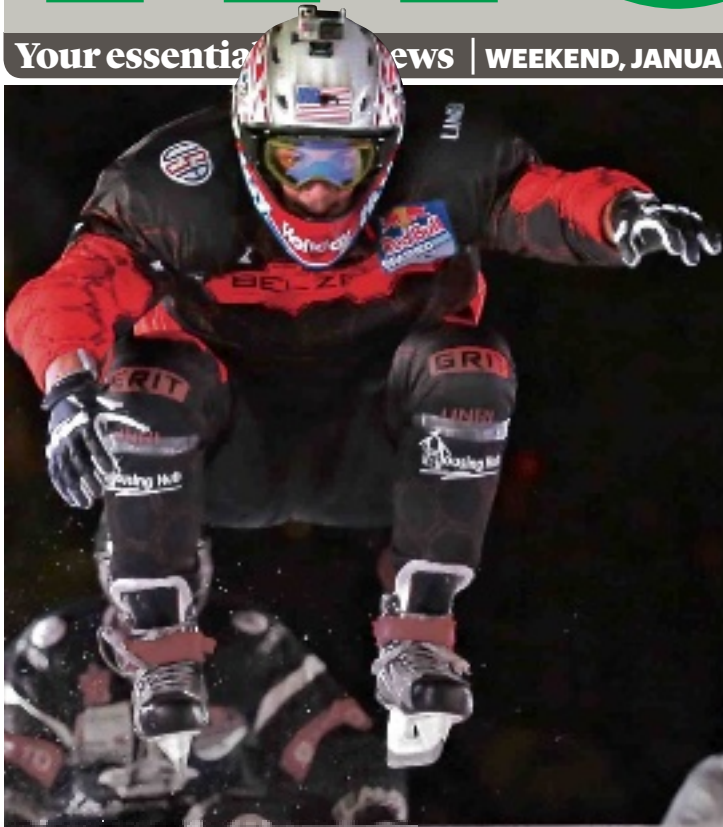
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READY TO FLY

Red Bull Crashed Ice is coming to Ottawa for Canada's 150th birthday

metroNEWS

Boost police legal budget: Board chair

REPORT

Police spent \$550K on fees last year



Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

For three years in a row, Ottawa police have blown their legal budget by more than \$200,000 — and now the head of the police services board thinks

its time to finally increase it.

A report that will be tabled at the Ottawa Police Services Board meeting Monday night shows the police service spent \$550,130 on legal fees in 2015. It only had budgeted \$328,100 for the year — roughly the same as in past three years.

The increase of \$222,000 means police spent 168 per cent of its legal budget.

Even though police are operating on a tight budget, Coun. Eli El-Chantiry, head of the police board, said the budget for

legal fees should be increased by at least \$100,000.

"We need to increase that budget. The legal fees should have been increased. If you look at other cities, what they spend for legal service of our size, you'll find us in the low compared to other police services," he said in an interview Thursday.

Police going over budget to pay legal fees is nothing new.

In 2014, the police service spent \$591,099 in legal fees, which was an 180 per cent increase over its \$328,100 legal

budget that year.

In 2013, the legal budget was exceeded by about \$201,000.

El-Chantiry said Thursday he contemplated pushing for the legal wallet to be increased during police budget negotiations last fall, but he reconsidered to help the city meet its goal of increasing taxes by no more than two per cent.

"We're always trying to be as efficient as possible and try to maintain our budget within the two per cent increase," he said.

El-Chantiry said he is "very



It's creating pressure on us, no doubt.

Coun. Eli El-Chantiry

confident" police will find funds in the current budget to cover the overspent legal fees.

It's not clear from where in the budget the money will come.

In an email statement, the

Ottawa police media relations department said, "the Chief has confirmed that Ottawa Police has funds to cover this expense."

There are 61 outstanding claims or notices of claim against the police board, according to the report.

The legal costs are associated with "significant staff time devoted to representing the Board, both at trial as well as at mediations, discoveries and settlement conferences," the report said.



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Playboy is suing two Canadian publications, alleging they illegally reproduced revealing photos of supermodel Kate Moss. **Business**

Rideau-Vanier complains the most to bylaw officers

MUNICIPAL MATTERS

Councillor says calls are a sign of residents' engagement



Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

Rideau-Vanier isn't full of complainers, it's just got residents who care — and who deal with more problems, its councillor says.

Rideau-Vanier residents called bylaw 9,614 times in 2015, nearly triple the city average of 3,320 calls per ward.

Most of that was for parking, but residents also made 2,275 noise complaints and reported 1,731 problems with property standards — more than any other ward.

Rideau-Vanier includes the Byward Market, the University of Ottawa and Vanier, so naturally there will be some issues stemming from student renters, night life and absentee landlords, said Coun. Mathieu Fleury.

"We're where a lot of things happen in the city," he said.

The fact that residents call them in is a good thing, he said.

"Residents really take pride and want to maintain a quality of life in the neighbourhood," Fleury said. "It means people care."

But it also means bylaw officers aren't necessarily being proactive about chronic issues.

In Sandy Hill, for instance, Fleury said he'd like to see officers calling out students on garbage or noise issues before residents report it. The same applies to absentee landlords in Vanier, he said.

"We know there are property standards issues in the neighbourhood, so we've asked them to be more proactive and not wait for calls," Fleury said.

That kind of "designated zone" for walkabouts or drive-bys is not happening at the level he'd like to see.

Across the city, parking is consistently the biggest complaint, with 40 per cent of all bylaw calls dedicated to the issue last year.

Officers also responded to more than 10,000 noise complaints and 11,600 animal issues in 2015.

Overall, calls increased one per cent in 2015 over 2014, but dropped drastically for things like graffiti and curbside collection. Complaints about care of streets, illegal signs and taxis, however, went up.



Complaints about curbside collection have dropped almost 90 per cent since 2013, when bylaw officers fielded 887 calls. In 2015, it only received 92. EMMA JACKSON/METRO

BY THE NUMBERS

Curbside collection complaints have dropped almost 90 per cent since 2013, from 887 in 2013 to 92 in 2015.

Taxi complaints have jumped about 16 per cent since 2013. There were 1,038 complaints in 2015

compared to 891 two years before.

Calls for "care of streets" went up nearly 17 per cent in 2015, from 2,262 in 2014 to 2,646 last year.

Complaints about graffiti on private property dropped by 495 calls in

2015, or 39 per cent over 2014.

Parking was the top complaint in 20 wards, with only West Carleton-March, Osgoode and Rideau-Goulbourn having more complaints about animals than cars.

SAUDI ARABIA

Colleges open for men only

Ontario's minister of post-secondary education says he's concerned that two publicly-funded Ontario colleges have opened campuses in Saudi Arabia that don't allow women.

On Wednesday, Colleges and Universities Minister Reza Moridi said decisions on the operation of a campus, including student composition, are up to each college's board of governors.

But late Thursday, after criticism on social media about the male-only campuses, the minister had a change of heart about Ontario colleges teaching courses that exclude women.

"I understand and appreciate the concern that has been raised in recent weeks around some of these international activities, particularly around two Ontario colleges running male-only campuses in Saudi Arabia," Moridi said in a statement. "I share those concerns."

Niagara College offers tourism, hospitality and business courses at its campus in Taif, and Algonquin College offers 10 programs, including business, accounting and electrical engineering technology, at a campus in Jazan.

The Ontario campuses in Saudi Arabia, and all education in the kingdom, prohibit the teaching of men and women in the same classes.

Moridi said he wanted to meet with both colleges and plans a conversation with all community colleges about the programs they deliver outside of Ontario.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Big Rig invites you to a brewery party

THE BOTTLENECK

Jordan Duff



Big Rig Brewery is already well established in the local brewing scene, but they really stepped it up over the past year. Most of Ottawa has enjoyed the grub and beers at one of their brewpubs, either at the original Iris Street location or the newer Gloucester Centre spot. As you may be aware, there is a third location in Kanata that functions as a taproom and larger industrial brew space.

You're invited to come out and get to know this spiffy location better, as the brewery at 103 Schneider Rd. will be ramping up its usage in 2016 and bringing in a variety of activities to enhance the animation of this fermentation space.

To kick things off, a new Taproom Series has been announced that will bring together a delightful pairing of music and craft beer. The inaugural concert, presented in conjunction with Ottawa Showbox, has been announced for Jan. 30 and will feature local indie folk rock band Amos the Transparent. Tickets for the event are now available through universe.com. Your \$15 ticket

includes a brewery tour, one drink ticket and the intimate music experience. Be on the lookout as more concert events in this series are planned.

Most importantly for the beer explorers out there, one-offs, seasonals and brews not available at the LCBO will be available at the Taproom.

Beyond the concert series, numerous other events are planned for 2016. Through Inner Revolution Yoga Studio, yoga sessions will be hosted amongst the tanks. In addition to this, the brewery is running more tours and has made space available for hosting events. I could think of worse venues for a professional development session ("looks hopefully at boss").

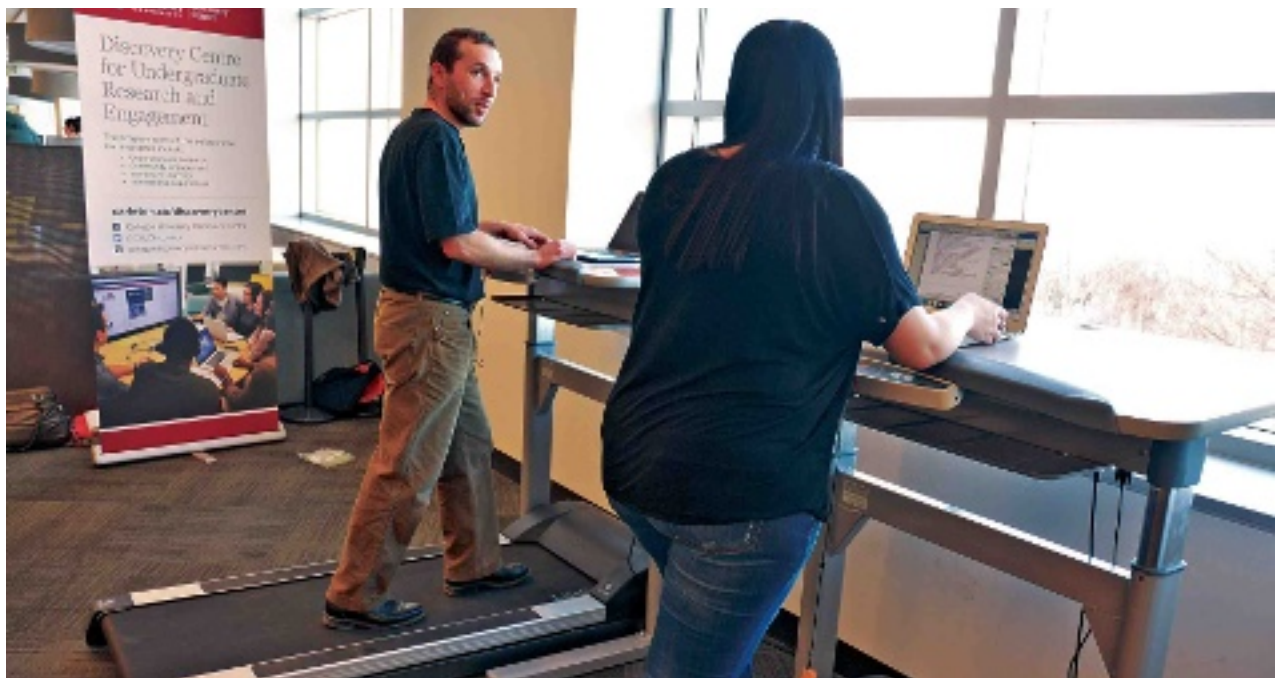
If you are out at the brewery for any of the above events, keep an eye open for Brewmaster Lon Laddel. Lon is celebrating his 20th year in the brewing industry, so wish him a happy anniversary! If you're a traditionalist, that's the fine china anniversary.

+ ONLINE

We couldn't fit all the local hop-penings into the paper, so check them out at metronews.ca.



Inside Big Rig Brewery. COURTESY BIG RIG BREWERY



Dan Rubinstein, left, chats with first-year student Chantel Massa while using Carleton University's treadmill desks on Thursday.

EMMA JACKSON/METRO

Treadmill writer is on a roll at Carleton

HEALTHY WORKSPACE

This walking enthusiast's office is one for the books



Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

A Carleton University writer is walking the walk and talking the talk — all at the same time.

Dan Rubinstein, a longtime journalist and walking enthusiast, is set to become the world's first "treadmill writer-in-residence" as he holds office hours at a treadmill desk twice weekly

in February.

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, he'll invite students and staff to take a walk with him while they discuss writing projects and brainstorm ideas.

He suspects his companions will be surprised at how much they accomplish.

"When you're active, the blood is flowing, the oxygen is moving around your body better and that makes your brain more powerful," Rubinstein said. "That has cognitive properties."

Rubinstein is a veritable walking expert.

His book, *Born to Walk: the Transformative Power of a Pedestrian Act*, was published last spring and chronicles the benefits of taking a walk, from

fighting obesity and depression to encouraging creative breakthroughs.

"Your perspective is changing with every single step, your view is changing every time you put your foot down," he said.

While that's not the case at his new treadmill cubicle — only the weather will alter his view of the canal, arboretum and Experimental Farm — just walking side-by-side with someone can help.

"You're not making eye contact, so you can be more open

and honest and have a more interesting conversation," Rubinstein said.

Imagine what that could mean if he and a student are both looking at the same text on different screens while they walk, he said.

When he joined Carleton in September, Rubinstein said he began looking for workspaces with natural light and discovered the treadmill desks in the library.

He hopes his residency will encourage more people to take advantage of the desks.



Your perspective is changing with every single step, your view is changing every time you put your foot down. Dan Rubinstein

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Vanier 'in transition': BIA

ANNUAL MEETING

Group is planning to spend \$25K on advertising



Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Expect to hear more — good things — about Vanier in 2016.

Local business owners and residents gathered at St. Charles church Thursday for the Quarter Vanier BIA's annual meeting to discuss the year's successes and the challenges moving forward.

The BIA is planning on doubling its advertising budget to \$25,000 as an effort to promote the neighbourhood this year.

"People's enthusiasm and eagerness to see what's happening is high," said the BIA chair Mark Kaluski, who owns a business in Beechwood. "Our goal now is to try and show the broader community that Vanier is in transition."

He points to interest by de-



Vanier business owners and residents voted Thursday on a design for a 'parklet' as part of a plan to revitalize the area. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

velopers Claridge and ModBox and unique businesses opening, including a farmers market inside the historic church.

Over the past year, the BIA has poured money into giving the area a visual identity with

banners and community events. The area's underdog reputation remains the more difficult hurdle to development.

Police statistics aren't specific to neighbourhoods, so while Vanier may have a reputation

for crime, it's hard to narrow down precise stats for the area.

The Rideau-Vanier ward has one of the highest crime rates in the city, but those statistics also include Lowertown, Sandy Hill and the city's nightlife hub

People's enthusiasm and eagerness to see what's happening is high.

Mark Kaluski

in the Byward Market.

"The biggest challenge is perception. It's frustrating," said Kaluski. He compared the area to Westboro, which was once notorious for crime and prostitution but is now hip and family-friendly.

Jamie Kwong, the BIA's executive director, wants to change minds but doesn't embrace the Westboro label.

She said while the BIA is working hard on promoting the area the goal is still to retain its character and affordability.

"We're not going to become some cookie-cutter version of something else. We'll stay Vanier," she said.

"We're going to keep our eclecticism, our diversity, our edginess and francophone history."

CRIME

Police ask public's help to identify Barrhaven robber

Ottawa police are looking for a man who robbed two gas stations and a convenience store in less than two hours in Barrhaven last month.

In all three robberies — which took place Dec. 18, 2015 — the man made a demand for cash and indicated he had a gun, although no weapon was seen. The first incident happened at a gas station along the 3700 block of Strandherd Drive at 3:10 a.m.

The second incident happened soon after, at 4:30 a.m., at another gas station in the 1400 block of Woodroffe Avenue.

The suspect is described as a Caucasian, English-speaking man, possibly 35 to 45 years old, approximately five feet 10 inches to six feet tall, with short black or brown hair, and a medium build. The suspect is balding, and appears to have a visible birthmark or injury on his left forearm. He also appears to be wearing glasses. JOE LOFARO/METRO



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5

THINGS TO DO IN OTTAWA THIS WEEKEND

How about some haggis-flavoured pho? Cultural celebrations collide as we gear up to mark the Lunar New Year and Robbie Burns Day. If you're feeling political, hop on your bike or mark your calendar to hear from the Harperman man. **EMMA JACKSON METRO**

1 Sit and Slurp

Think you know the best spots for Thai, ramen and pho in Ottawa? Test your knowledge at Sip and Slurp Noodle Fest this Saturday night at the Shaw Centre downtown. Local chefs will put their culinary twists on traditional dishes and go head to head to be named the best noodle chefs in Ottawa. Tickets are \$15 at the door, plus the cost of food. Doors are open from 5 to 10 p.m.

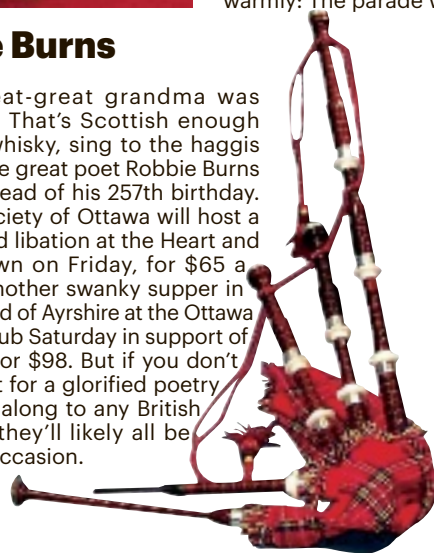
Saturday



2 Robbie Burns

Your great-great-great grandma was Scottish, right? That's Scottish enough to drink some whisky, sing to the haggis and celebrate the great poet Robbie Burns this weekend ahead of his 257th birthday. The Scottish Society of Ottawa will host a night of food and libation at the Heart and Crown downtown on Friday, for \$65 a ticket. There's another swanky supper in honour of the Bard of Ayrshire at the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club Saturday in support of Roger's House, for \$98. But if you don't want to shell out for a glorified poetry night, just head along to any British pub in town — they'll likely all be packed for the occasion.

Friday and Saturday



3 Bikes on parade

Love cycling, meeting new people, and proving a point? Then the winter bike parade is for you. Hosted by Citizens for Safe Cycling, the five-kilometre parade from city hall is mostly a family-friendly social, but proving the point that winter cycling is possible — and fun — is a happy bonus. Cyclists should meet in city hall's south lobby at 10:30 a.m. Dress warmly: The parade will putt along at 10 km/h. Snacks and warm drinks to follow. **Saturday**



4 Why it was time to go

If you hummed "Harperman" throughout the entire federal election, don't miss a chance to meet the man behind the music as Tony Turner releases his third album at the Gladstone Theatre. Beginning at 7:30 p.m., enjoy a preview of the album's "life-affirming songs" with the help of Shawville singer Julie Corrigan. Tickets are \$22 at thegladstone.ca. **Sunday**



5 Monkeying around

Celebrate the year of the monkey with a three-day night market at Hilton Lac Leamy Friday through Sunday to mark the Lunar New Year. Hosted by Ottawa Asian Fest, expect all kinds of delectable dishes, from Vietnamese iced coffees to squid on a stick to Hong Kong-style bubble waffles, which you can enjoy on the heated patio or at the ice bar. Performers will keep the hotel hopping with demonstrations, music and the traditional lion dance. On Friday, the party starts at 7 p.m. and on Saturday it starts at noon. Both nights wrap up at midnight. On Sunday, head over between 12 and 6 p.m. **All weekend**



OTTAWA 2017

Red Bull to crash the party



Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

Brave skaters will be racing down a bumpy, windy track near the Chateau Laurier in March 2017.

The Red Bull Crashed Ice final championship, which often takes place in Quebec City, is the latest event to be added to the national capital's year-long celebration of Canada's 150th anniversary.

Ottawa 2017 — the board organizing the sesquicentennial festivities — called Thursday's announcement a "blockbuster."

"It's probably the most spectacular site in the history of Red Bull Crashed Ice," said Guy Laflamme, executive director of Ottawa 2017.

The exact March dates for the free Ice Cross Downhill World Championship — a combination of power skating, ski cross and boardercross — will be announced in the fall.

About 100 of the top athletes from around the world will lace up their skates and zip down the 480-metre track of sharp turns and steep drops. The average speed is 50 km/h, but American athlete Maxwell Dunne clocked a record 82 km/h at a recent Munich event.

Ottawa 2017 and sponsor CIBC will jointly fund the \$1.5-million event and Red Bull will invest "millions" of dollars, said Laflamme. It's expected to generate \$10 million in economic spinoffs.

There's still no word on whether the NHL Winter Classic or the CFL Grey Cup will be part of the Ottawa 2017 agenda. But Mayor Jim Watson sounded hopeful and even went so far as to say he's expecting an announcement within the next six or seven months.

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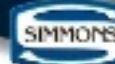
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APPEAL

Kind centre wants Grinch to return cash



Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa's queer resource centre, Kind, is speaking out about \$700 and a cash deposit box that went missing during the holidays.

"I was disappointed, but also panicked," said Carling Miller, executive director of the Cooper Street community hub. "We clued into it being missing when

there was a food request and the cash box wasn't there."

Miller said staff and volunteers searched the building, but eventually realized it must have been taken during the holidays when the centre remained open to drop-ins. "It was a pretty awful feeling. The volunteers also felt horrible that it had happened on their watch. That was difficult to see," she said.

Miller said the deposit box was kept in her office. The funds

come from space rentals and were kept on hand to buy things like art supplies, refreshments and replace broken equipment.

"It's pretty significant," she said. "We do all our daily activities with that money."

Ottawa police said the case would be "too open-ended" and aren't launching an investigation. Instead Kind is appealing to the person who took the cash to returned it, no questions asked.

Miller acknowledged that the

person who took the money could be struggling financially but said the money is supposed to help the community.

"It means they're taking away from other people that that money would have been used to help," she said. "I would appreciate to get any amount of it back or to get the cash box back."

Any information concerning the whereabouts of the deposit box can be delivered anonymously to Kind staff at 613-563-4818.



Karen McCrimmon, MP for Kanata-Carleton, was the Senators' guest at the Trillium Dinner at the Shaw Centre, a \$600-a-plate fundraiser for the Ontario Liberals. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Perception matters: MP

KANATA-CARLETON

Liberal pays Senators for dinner she attended



Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

A Liberal member of Parliament says she has reimbursed the Ottawa Senators for the cost of a dinner fundraiser she attended in November.

Karen McCrimmon, the MP for Kanata-Carleton, was the Senators' guest at the Trillium Dinner at the Shaw Centre, a \$600-a-plate fundraiser for the Ontario Liberals.

While the gift fell within the rules for MPs, McCrimmon said she later realized there was potential for people to think ill of it.

"I failed to consider that perception matters as much as

reality does," she told Metro. "So I decided that I was going to be especially prudent, and I have repaid the Senators."

Under the Conflict of Interest Code, MPs are required to disclose gifts worth more than \$200.

McCrimmon said when she received the Senators' invitation to sit at their table, she sought guidance from the conflict of interest and ethics commissioner's office and was informed there was no legal or ethical reason she couldn't accept the offer.

She publicly reported the gift on Jan. 7. The listing said it was "offered as a normal expression of courtesy that normally accompanies the member's position."

"I reported it. It wasn't hidden. We followed the rules to the tee. We couldn't have followed the rules any better," she said.

"I just wanted to be especially prudent. I don't want people to think there's anything wrong with this, so I just repaid it."

IN BRIEF

Clarification on mouthguard clinic this weekend

Yesterday, we told you about a mouthguard clinic this weekend.

We said it was for the general public. It turns out the Canadian National Institute of Health has pre-arranged appointments for athletes from the Boys and Girls Club — not the general public.

But you can call the student Dental Hygiene Clinic at 613-726-0100 for more information if you would like

an appointment for yourself or a family member in the future. METRO

Paco Dvoi album release

Ottawa folk rocker and slam poet Paco Dvoi is releasing his second album, Morphogenesis, tonight at Shanghai Restaurant at 651 Somerset Ave. W. The event starts at 8:30 p.m. and there's a \$5 cover. Dvoi says the album explores "themes related to love, death, hope and the delicate state of the world."

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Israeli leader digs Trudeau

FOREIGN POLICY

'Great' meeting in Paris, says Prime Minister Netanyahu

Benjamin Netanyahu, long seen as a close friend and ally of Stephen Harper, says he has since struck up a very good relationship with the former prime minister's new Liberal successor.

The Israeli prime minister, in Davos this week for the World Economic Forum, said he and Justin Trudeau had a "great" meeting at an earlier international gathering in Paris.

"We have a very, very good relationship," Netanyahu said.

Strong, unwavering support of Israel was long a foreign policy pillar for the Conservative government under Harper, who in Israel in 2014 famously promised that Canada would stand with the Jewish state through fire and water.

Trudeau has pledged similar support for Israel, although he is greeted with skepticism from some corners of Israeli supporters in Canada. Not so Netanyahu, who insisted he has no misgivings about the Liberals.

That's even after Trudeau promised to pull Canadian

fighter jets out of the battle against the militants of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) — a decision the Israeli leader insisted Thursday was entirely Canada's to make.

The conflicts in the Middle East have come up repeatedly at the Davos meeting, including minutes before Trudeau took the stage Wednesday for his keynote address. Iran's foreign minister, sitting on the same stage Trudeau and Netanyahu would each soon occupy, argued there was no military solution to the crisis, only a political one.

Trudeau has been publicly pressed twice in Davos on his decision to withdraw the six CF-18s taking part in the bombing mission. Twice, he has cited

Canada's military expertise in training security and gathering intelligence, the result of a decade spent fighting in Afghanistan.

"We definitely have much to contribute on helping local militias and local troops be more effective in the direct fight," Trudeau said in a session with CNN host Fareed Zakaria.

"If there's one thing that recent history has taught us, it's that ultimately conflicts like this need to have their resolution on the ground with people who ... want to take their countries back from terrorists."

But Richard was not impressed with Trudeau when



There are other ways that we will be engaging militarily.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Maude Carrier was among the six Quebecers who were killed in the terrorist attack in Burkina Faso. Carrier's husband says he hung up on Justin Trudeau when the prime minister called him earlier this week. [FACEBOOK.COM](#)

BURKINA FASO ATTACKS

Hanging up on PM 'felt good,' says husband of terror victim

The husband of one of the Quebecers killed in the Burkina Faso terrorist attack says hanging up on Justin Trudeau "felt good" after the prime minister called him earlier this week.

Yves Richard told Montreal radio station 98.5 FM on Thursday he was frustrated in the hours after last week's tragedy with what he called Global Affairs Canada's lack of tact and empathy.

He did say the situation has since improved and that the families of victims are being treated better.

But Richard was not impressed with Trudeau when

the prime minister rang him up Monday, three days after the attack that killed his wife, Maude Carrier, and five other Quebecers.

"My prime minister called me and began speaking in such a canned manner, wishing me good luck, offering me his condolences and talking about them as a source of Canadian pride," he said.

"That's when I told him to stop his political blabbing.

"If he's going to call me, then at least he should know who the Carriers are. It wasn't out of Canadian pride that they were doing what they were doing but rather be-

cause they were basically good people."

The six were on a humanitarian mission in Burkina Faso's capital of Ouagadougou when al-Qaida carried out the attack.

Four of the dead were from the same family: Yves Carrier, his wife Gladys Chamberland, their adult son Charlelie Carrier as well as Maude, Yves Carrier's daughter.

Richard said his conversation with Trudeau ended with him telling the prime minister to go hug his wife and children.

"Then I hung up on him and it felt good." [THE CANADIAN PRESS](#)

IN BRIEF

EU celebrates 'sunny ways'

The European Union says the arrival of the Trudeau government heralds a new era of transatlantic co-operation on energy and climate change. Marie-Anne Coninsx, the EU ambassador to Canada, says that Canada now links climate change and energy policy, which allows for a high-level dialogue on a variety of related issues.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

National listeria outbreak

The Public Health Agency of Canada says seven people have been hospitalized in a listeria outbreak affecting five provinces. The agency says there were three cases in Ontario and one each in Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DND jobs go unfilled

The Department of National Defence is struggling to recruit staff — both uniformed and civilian — at oft-maligned support units for ill and injured soldiers. It is also considering a name change for the organization following a sobering internal review.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mourning in Montreal

Several hundred people gathered at the Notre-Dame Basilica on Thursday to pay their final respects to Rene Angelil, Celine Dion's long-time manager and husband. Angelil died from throat cancer Jan. 14.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FEDERAL BUDGET

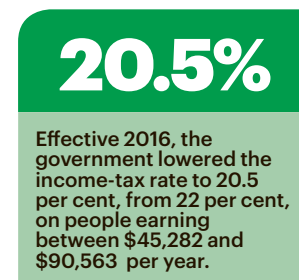
Tax changes will cost feds: Study

The Liberals' tax-bracket changes will drain on average about \$100 million more per year from the public treasury than the government expects, says a new analysis by the federal budget watchdog.

But the parliamentary budget office said the discrepancy between its numbers and those of the federal Finance Department largely came down to different assumptions.

The main difference between the two projections is the fact that the Finance Department's calculations do not take into account the fiscal impact of the Liberal vow to cancel income splitting for families with kids, said Mostafa Askari, the assistant parliamentary budget officer.

While seemingly counter-intuitive, Askari says that repealing the income-splitting measure would actually lower



government revenues under the Liberals' new, tax-bracket framework.

The tax-bracket changes will reduce government revenues by \$8.9 billion over six years if Ottawa ditches income splitting, the budget office said. If it keeps income splitting, the budget office estimated that six-year figure would be \$8.3 billion.

Last month, the government said the lost revenue would

amount to just over \$8.2 billion over six years. Askari said those Finance Department numbers were calculated with the impacts of income splitting still in place.

On Thursday, the budget office estimated the tax-bracket changes — after the impact of cancelling income splitting is factored in — will have a net drain on the public books of \$1.6 billion in 2016-17. That number will creep up each year until it reaches \$1.9 billion in 2020-21.

The budget office and government calculations also had slightly different assumptions about how people at different income levels might respond to the tax changes.

For example, people whose incomes land in the highest bracket may take steps to lower their tax payments.

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Bolivian lake evaporates

ENVIRONMENT

Expert ties loss of large body of water to climate change

Overtaken fishing skiffs lie abandoned on the shores of what was Bolivia's second-largest lake. Beetles dine on bird carcasses and gulls fight for scraps under a glaring sun in what marshes remain.

Lake Poopo was officially declared evaporated last month. Hundreds, if not thousands, of people have lost their livelihoods and left.

High on Bolivia's semi-arid Andean plains at 3,700 metres and long subject to climatic whims, the shallow saline lake has essentially dried up before, only to rebound to twice the area of Los Angeles.

But recovery may no longer be possible, scientists say.

"This is a picture of the future of climate change," says Dirk Hoffman, a German glaciologist who studies how rising temper-

atures from the burning of fossil fuels has accelerated glacial melting in Bolivia.

As Andean glaciers disappear, so do the sources of Poopo's water. But other factors are in play in the demise of Bolivia's second-largest body of water (behind Lake Titicaca).

Drought caused by the recurrent El Nino meteorological phenomenon is considered the main driver. Authorities say another factor is the diversion of water from Poopo's tributaries, mostly for mining but also for agriculture.

More than 100 families have sold their sheep, llamas and alpaca, set aside their fishing nets and quit the former lake-side village of Untavi over the past three years, draining it of well over half its population. Only the elderly remain.

"There's no future here," said 29-year-old Juvenal Gutierrez, who moved to a nearby town where he ekes by as a motor-cycle taxi driver.

Record-keeping on the lake's history only goes back a century, and there is no good tally of



1 A fisherman walks along the abandoned boats in the dried-up Lake Poopo — once the country's second-largest lake — on the outskirts of Untavi, Bolivia.

2 Felix Rojas, 78, who has paid his children's education from fishing in Lake Poopo, doesn't know what the future holds.

3 A boy swats away mosquitoes in Untavi, near the shores of Lake Poopo, which was officially declared evaporated in December 2015.



the people displaced by its disappearance. At least 3,250 people have received humanitarian aid, the governor's office says.

Poopo is now down to two per cent of its former water level, regional Gov. Victor Hugo Vasquez calculates. Its maximum depth once reached five metres.

Field biologists say 75 species of birds are gone from the lake.

The head of a local citizens' group that tried to save Poopo, Angel Flores, says authorities ignored warnings.

"Something could have been done to prevent the disaster. Mining companies have been

diverting water since 1982," he said.

Environmentalists and local activists say the government mismanaged fragile water resources and ignored rampant pollution from mining, Bolivia's second export earner after natural gas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EASTERN SEABOARD

U.S. drivers brace for snowstorm

Drivers in the Washington, D.C. area spent hours in icy gridlock ahead of heavy snowfall that's predicted to arrive by the weekend from the Appalachian Mountains to Philadelphia and maybe farther north.

On Thursday morning, Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe issued a state of emergency and said people should "take the threat of this storm seriously." He warned of travel disruptions and power outages. McAuliffe said crews are treating roads before the weekend storm hits, but state transportation officials urged drivers to stay off the roads.

Treated roads were clear, but some elevated roads, ramps and side streets were icy with drivers creeping along.

In northern Virginia, minor accidents built to gridlock, and ramp closures continued through the night, Virginia Department of Transportation spokeswoman Jennifer McCord said. State police responded to 767 crashes over a 24-hour period ending early Thursday, and two troopers were involved in accidents, spokeswoman Corinne Geller said.

The National Weather Service said in a statement Wednesday that up to 40 centimetres of snow could come down between Friday night and Sunday morning in the region.

The storm will bring ice and freezing rain to Arkansas, Tennessee and Kentucky starting Thursday, prediction centre meteorologist Rich Otto said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

767

Virginia state police say the icy conditions resulted in **767 crashes** over a 24-hour period ending Thursday morning.



Mos Def THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRAVEL

Mos Def's passport rejected in South Africa

Mos Def's arrest in South Africa shined a light on the world passport, a document invented by a Vermont man in the aftermath of the Second World War.

The 42-year-old rapper and actor, who is also known as Yasiin Bey, was accused of trying to leave South Africa while using a passport not recognized by that country.

Mos Def has been living in South Africa for almost three years and had used a U.S. pass-

port when previously entering and leaving the country. He was arrested when he tried to leave Jan. 14 using a passport issued by the World Service Authority.

Q: What is a world passport?

A: The world passport is a machine readable travel document that resembles traditional passports issued by most nations of the world. The passports are now administered by a Washington-based non-profit called the World

Service Authority.

Q: What is its history?

A: In 1948, Garry Davis, a former Broadway actor and a former bomber pilot in the Second World War, renounced his U.S. citizenship and declared himself a "citizen of the world." In 1953 in Ellsworth, Maine, Davis declared the founding of the World Government of World Citizens.

Q: Which states recognize it?

A: It's unclear. The World Service Authority website lists 183 countries that the organization claims have recognized the passports by stamping a visa or exit or entry stamp in them.

Q: How do you get one?

A: Passport-seekers can fill out applications on the World Service Authority website. A 10-year passport costs \$100, plus shipping and handling.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COURT

Judge tosses out defamation suit against Cosby

A U.S. federal judge on Thursday dismissed a lawsuit filed by a Pittsburgh-area woman who claims Bill Cosby defamed her when he and his representatives responded to allegations that he drugged and sexually assaulted her and other women.

The October lawsuit filed by Renita Hill, 48, of Baldwin, was dismissed with prejudice, meaning she cannot try to amend and refile it.

Her lawsuit said she was made out to be a "liar" and "extortionist" when the comedian, his wife and his attorney issued blanket denials.

U.S. District Judge Arthur Schwab agreed with Cosby's attorneys that the statements were opinions protected by the First Amendment.

"Even considering these three statements together as a combined, single statement, this newly 'conjoined' statement does not lead to an inference that plaintiff is a 'liar and an extortionist,'" the judge wrote.

Hill's attorney, George Kontos, promised to appeal saying he strongly disagreed with the judge's reasoning.

"The basis of his opinion is these are constitutionally pro-

TECTED, 'pure' opinions," Kontos said. "But, looked at as a whole, they contain all sorts of innuendo and undisclosed facts."

Cosby has yet to respond specifically to Hill's allegations that he drugged and molested her several times after they met on the TV show, "Picture Pages," in 1983. Hill claims that went on for about four years, starting when she was 16, and that Cosby helped pay for her college and would fly her to cities where he was performing, until she cut off contact with him about four years later.

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Bill Cosby THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Canada to world: Be like us

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Ministers tell countries to spend way out of downturn

Canada's plea to its international counterparts to open their wallets and spend their way out of a worsening global economic slump is resonating among the world's economic power brokers.

At a time when some countries are looking at austerity to help them pull through a shaky economy, Canadian cabinet ministers have been telling anyone they meet at the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum that deficits are the way out of the downturn.

"Interest rates are at historic lows. We can make significant investments because we have that, plus an opportunity with our low amount of debt, especially in comparison with other countries," Finance Minister Bill Morneau said Thursday.

"What I hear from other people in my position around the world is this is the right



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau addresses the Global Shapers on Pluralism session in Switzerland on Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

initiative at this time, and we know it will make a difference for Canadians."

Some countries, particularly in Europe, don't have the fiscal room to take on more debt, said author and journalist Fareed Zakaria, who interviewed Justin Trudeau after

the prime minister's keynote speech on Wednesday.

Canadian business titan Michael Sabia said countries have become too dependent on monetary policy and need to put in place a much broader growth strategy and "focus on the real economy."

That focus, he said, has been lost because of upheaval in the markets. Stock values are dropping, along with the price of oil and the loonie, together spooking some observers into pressing the federal Liberals to respond.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAVOS, SWITZERLAND

GM won't reveal plans for key plant

Canada's economic development minister says the federal government has received no firm commitments from General Motors about the future of its plant in Oshawa, Ont.

Navdeep Bains spoke with Mary Barra, CEO of General Motors Company, before her closed-door meeting with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Bains said they made the case for GM to keep its plant open in Oshawa, trying to play up Canada as a high-tech hub and Ontario as an automotive centre. He said GM didn't give the government any specifics about the future of the Oshawa plant, which has an uncertain future past 2017.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Publications target of Playboy lawsuit

Playboy has filed a copyright lawsuit against Toronto-based Contempo Media and Montreal's Indecent Xposure alleging they illegally reproduced photographs of Kate Moss taken for Playboy's 60th anniversary.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Loonie back above 70¢

Strengthening oil prices sent stock markets higher and helped push the Canadian dollar above the 70-cent U.S. mark for the first time in more than a week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

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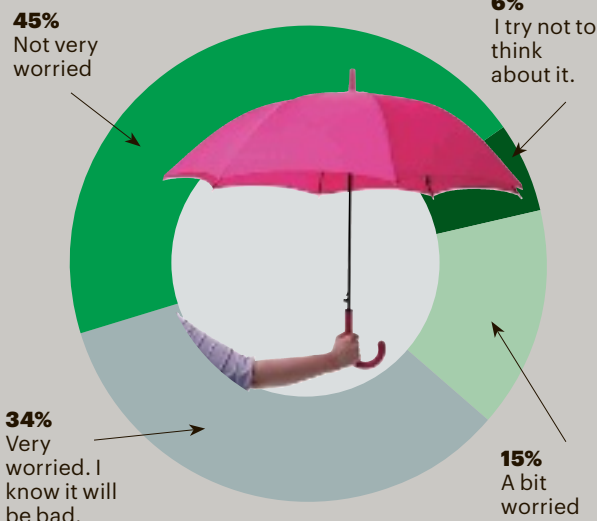


Metro POLL Feeling the (climate) heat

Visit metronews.ca
to have your say.

Scientists say 2015 was the warmest year worldwide since record-keeping began (and 2014 was the second-warmest). Climate change is coming fast. We asked our readers if they're doing anything to cut their carbon footprint, and how concerned are they are about the future.

1 How worried are you about climate change and extreme weather in the coming years?



2 What was the weather like for the past 12 months where you live?

33% Warmer than usual
32% The same as ever
17% Just all-around weird
9% Colder than usual
5% Wetter than usual
4% Drier than usual

3 What are you doing to reduce your carbon footprint?

20% Reducing energy use around the home
17% Reducing garbage
13% Using efficient vehicles/appliances
10% Eating less meat
10% Taking transit, biking or walking
8% Nothing. I don't care.
7% Planting trees or a garden
7% Reducing air travel
4% Donating to environmental organizations
2% Nothing, but I feel bad about it
2% Other

I talk about climate change with others, trying to spread ideas for solutions.

I take trains and reduce garbage.

I'm worried it's too late.

My lifestyle creates a very small carbon footprint. This is in effort to save money and avoid polluting the planet.

WE ASKED Metro readers

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

How to be a 21st-century woman on Instagram

How to be a woman on Instagram.

A bare ass is a good look. A young bare ass. Perky yet squishy, like babies' cheeks.

Wear a thong or transparent panties, high-end lingerie, and tag the designer. That's a repost and hundreds more followers, easy. #lace.

Right angle, right lighting. Framing is everything. My face is not great, so I only take outdoor selfies in the winter when the sun's at three o'clock and my arm's at a 66-degree angle.

Write one supportive message every three and a half days: "Believe in yourself! All women are strong and powerful!! Love you guys! (Emoji, emoji)."

It might take 100 tries and I have carpal tunnel now, but no one said Instagram would be easy. My volleyball coach always said: "Perfect practice makes perfect." I say: "Perfect perfect perfect perfect."

You're the sum of your parts, you know? It's not just this one round ass — it's the body of your work, the complete work of your body.

If I take a cleavage shot in an oversized men's shirt while perching on the edge of a bed with rustled sheets — I'm not doing that tomorrow. One cleave shot a week.

I'll do a #greenisgood smoothie or an elevator selfie with my new Marc Jacobs handbag. A yoga pose, a cut

avocado ("Brunch!"). Stuff that's real. Pre- and post-pregnancy bellies are huge right now. Also, post-breast-job shots with bandages. How will people know it's really real? That's not the point.

Take that young, hot Argentinian artist, the one who's now an art star. She was posting all these photos on Instagram and taking on all these personae — workout streetwear chick, frilly innocent-face-girl, post-boob-job vixen. It was all about her in Los Angeles, making it in the city, and people loved it. Thousands of followers. But it turned out it was all an act. It was art.

For five months, she was pretending to be real on Instagram, to show the "construction of femininity." And now all these galleries are actually showing her Instagram photos. The Tate Modern. I'm not kidding.

The point is, she kept getting likes even when people found out it was fake! She has close to 90,000 followers — that's real. That's Instagram. And some stuff was really real. Word is, she really did get some minor plastic surgery. Just the boob job was a fake.

Now she's modelling for Gucci. She's on a Forbes 30-under-30 list. Like I said: Hard work. But it pays. Now take my photo.

'Clean eating' based on faith, not solid science



Genna Buck
Metro | Toronto

Many of today's popular brand-name diets can be boiled down to a list of rules that start with "Thou shalt not."

As the new year's dieting season drags on, every bookstore shelf and morning TV show has self-styled experts advocating all-out bans on whole categories of foods, all in the name of "clean eating."

I'd love to be able to quickly and efficiently debunk "clean eating," but I can't. It has no precise definition. What's "clean" to a bodybuilder may not be to a paleo person. One "clean" regimen du jour is premised on the theory that wheat and dairy (and sometimes other stuff, depending on the specific strain of dubious science) cause a vague but scary-sounding inflammation.

If you believe some foods are "clean," then others must be "unclean." And that is a very, very old idea. Dairy and wheat, to the dairy-and-wheat-free crowd, aren't unclean in any real-world way. They're ritually unclean, like pork is to observant Jewish folks.

And what do faith-based food restrictions do? They identify you with a tribe, whose members support and motivate you to stick with their rules and shame you if you don't. Modern-day food tribes — like the Bulletproof crowd, the Whole 30 club, the Wheat Belly people — fill the same role. If one of these programs is helping you build good habits and eat less junk food: Awesome. Carry on!

But know this: Almost no nutrition science is solid enough to indicate that anything — except trans fats — should be cut from healthy adults' diets entirely.

Last week, Julia Belluz at

Vox compiled a list of all the things that make nutrition research bloody difficult and expensive. First, it's maddeningly individual. Different people respond differently to the same diet. People also don't stick to diets, even when they're told to as part of a study. Few researchers follow subjects more than a few weeks, which means the outcomes that are being measured are things like short-term changes in blood pressure, not, say, long-term incidence of heart disease.

Long-term observational studies, which rely on people's reports of what they eat, are full of confounding factors that can't all be accounted for. An increased recognition of these limitations is part of why conventional nutrition wisdom has about-faced on fat.

That said, in general, author Michael Pollan's advice ("Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants.") holds up in light of what evidence we do have. To

my knowledge, there's never been a study showing fresh vegetables are bad for you. Sugar isn't poison. Your body can handle the occasional calorie wallop in the form of a large Coke, but don't push your luck. Refined flour has a well-deserved bad rap, but whole grains are yummy and good for you. Minimize your consumption of additives and preservatives and what-not, not because they're poison (your kidneys have your back), but because you can do better by choosing whole foods most of the time. The best advice is moderation, McGill nutrition professor Linda Wykes told me. If you dream of deep-fried Mars Bars, you can indulge, once in a while, without worry. Thank the higher power of your choice for that.

Genna Buck is a science writer and a section editor at Metro. Follow her on Twitter @genna_buck.

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5TH WAVE

Chloë Moretz has impressive run of strong, serious roles

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Eighteen-year-old Chloë Grace Moretz played a young vampire in *Let Me In*, a would-be superhero in *Kick Ass* and cinema's most famous telekinetic, *Carrie*. It's a diverse group of roles, but Moretz says she can draw a straight line from character to character. "They're linear," she says, "in the sense that they're all

strong characters. A lot of them are like me, the basis of them. They all have a big mountain in front of them but they are going to climb it and fight as hard as they can."

This weekend she stars in *The 5th Wave*, a world-under-attack sci-fi flick based on Rick Yancey's young adult novel of the same name. Moretz plays Cassie and her "big mountain" is an alien invasion that devastates the planet, separating her from her younger brother. Can she find her sibling before the deadly 5th wave hits?

You'll have to buy a ticket to find out. The only thing I can tell you for sure is that it is another spunky performance from the actress.

Over the course of a short but eventful career spirited characters have become her



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Dirty Grandpa ★
The 5th Wave ★★
45 Years ★★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★★ SKIP IT
★

stock in trade. She has made a habit of playing people with rich lives swirling around them. For instance, she's a sparkplug teenage prostitute in *The Equalizer*, a confused best friend to Keira Knightley in *Laggies* and a movie star with a scandalous life in *Clouds of Sils Maria*.

Here are her top three career defining roles:

Spunky: In *If I Stay* Moretz plays Mia, a gifted teenage

cellist from a family of musicians. When a catastrophic accident throws her into a coma she has an out-of-body experience. The rest of the story is told from the perspective of her memories before the accident and in the present, as she observes, ghostlike, the aftermath of the car crash.

Here she delivers what may be her best performance yet. As Mia she is a talented teen just discovering a life beyond the cello that has been her

constant companion since she was young. It's a simple and uncluttered performance with a lot going on behind the eyes.

Spunkier: In the 2013 remake of *Carrie* she put her own spin on Stephen King's most famous character, originally played by Sissy Spacek in 1976. Where Spacek was a true outsider, an abused, naive girl, Moretz plays her with a bit more pluck. Both are *Ugly Ducklings* transformed into swans and then monsters, unwitting and undeserving victims of horrible abuse, but Moretz gives *Carrie* more backbone than her predecessor.

Spunkiest: Undoubtedly her signature spunky performance came in 2010's *Kick-Ass*.

If Quentin Tarantino made a kid's coming-of-age movie it might look something like *Kick-Ass*. It has most of his trademarks — clever dialogue, good soundtrack and some high octane violence — but there's a twist. The bloodiest, most cutthroat purveyor of ultra violence in the film is an 11-year-old girl.

The action scenes are plentiful and frenetic and once you get past the question, "Why would Chloë Moretz's parents allow her to do this?" they're really fun. It's a little unsettling to see a young girl wielding a switchblade, gunning down dozens of bad guys and going hand-to-hand with a full grown man, but not since Natalie Portman in *Léon* has the screen seen such a sweet-faced assassin.

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16

Movies **metro**LIFE

Can you spot the Cancon?

Where a movie is shot doesn't mean a thing. What matters is who makes it. To determine whether a movie is Canadian, follow the money: it's all about the producers, the people financing it. The Canadian Audio-Visual Certification Office sets rules for what qualifies, including a 10-point system that looks at nationality of director, lead actors, screenwriter, and other categories. A film must hit eight out of 10 points. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



Juno: No

This smart 2007 Oscar-winning comedy helped launch the careers of Canadians Ellen Page and Michael Cera. It was shot in and around Vancouver and directed by Montreal-born Jason Reitman. The entire production practically ran on maple syrup. But it's not a Canadian-produced film.

The Witch: Yes

Written and directed by American Robert Eggers, starring American actress Anya Taylor-Joy and shot in the Ottawa Valley (as 17th-century New England), what makes this terrifying thriller (opening Feb. 19) a Canadian work is its production pedigree. A U.S.-Canadian effort, The Witch is co-produced by Daniel Bekerman's Toronto-based Scythia Films. And Toronto composer Mark Korven was responsible for The Witch's score.



Brooklyn: Yes

Montreal stands in for Brooklyn in this story of a young Irish woman's life in New York and Ireland. Brooklyn is a treaty co-production among Canadian, Irish and U.K. producers. Toronto-born Michael Brook wrote the score and the cinematographer was Montreal's Yves Bélanger.



Room: Yes

It wasn't the fact you could recognize most outdoor scenes — the Beach boardwalk, Apache Burger, Bridgepoint Hospital and the DVP. It wasn't that Irish-born novelist Emma Donoghue, who wrote the screenplay from her novel, makes her home in London, Ont. Nor was it Vancouver-born co-star Jacob Tremblay. It was the financing, which was a Canada-Ireland treaty co-production.



Resident Evil: Retribution: Yes

Directed by Paul W.S. Anderson and starring Milla Jovovich as the queen of the zombie slayers, the fifth movie in the Resident Evil franchise was the top Canadian movie of 2012 and winner of that year's Golden Reel Award for top domestic box office. Made in Toronto, it was produced by prolific Canadian filmmaker, Don Carmody.



Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny team up to reprise their roles as FBI agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully in the next chapter of *The X-Files* airing Sunday on CTV. HANDOUT

Duchovny: 'We have chemistry and history'

THE X-FILES

Star says Mulder and Scully bond just needs 'biology'

For Chris Carter, there's nothing scarier than sitting in an audience and watching *The X-Files*.

The first episode of Carter's reboot of his sci-fi franchise had its world premiere last October at MIPCOM, the international TV marketplace. It was screened again last week for critics at the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

Throughout both screenings, Carter squirmed in his seat.

"Television is something you normally experience in a small room with your friends and loved ones," he said. "I rarely get a chance to see it with an audience. It was thrilling, but it filled me with anxiety."

With original stars David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson back and, as Carter noted, "looking fabulous," *The X-Files* seems like a brand poised for a return to the world stage.

Duchovny and Anderson joined Carter last week at the Television Critics Association press tour. They were asked if the old chemistry was there. "We've gone beyond chemistry to history," said Duchovny, who teased fans by adding, "We have chemistry and history; we're going to try and have biology."

Both stars have enjoyed busy careers since *The X-Files* series ended 13 years ago. Duchovny, who went on to *Californication* and *Aquarius*, says his children are now old enough to watch the series. Anderson lives in London and balances stage work with series such as *Hannibal* and *The Fall*.

"Living over there, I found a mix between film and theatre and TV, and that suits me just fine," says Anderson.

Carter acknowledges the world has changed since the series launched in 1993. There are references to innovations such as Uber and WikiLeaks. Carter feels the world has become more conservative, more paranoid — ripe for his brand of storytelling.

Television has also changed. Critics speak of a new "golden age" of TV drama, some of it

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made by people who got their start on *The X-Files*, including Homeland executive producer Howard Gordon and Breaking Bad's Vince Gilligan.

The *X-Files* also helped establish Vancouver as a main player in North American network TV production. The miniseries returned to the North Shore studios where it all began, with production wrapping a little over a month ago.

Duchovny — often blamed for the series relocating from Vancouver to Los Angeles after six seasons — says it felt like home being back in B.C.

"Although we shot in the summer when days were longer there and, ironically, it wasn't dark enough."

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Zac Efron: More than meets the abs

DIRTY GRANDPA

Is the babe really a talented thespian? Maybe, at times

Matt Prigge
Metro | New York



This week, the first High School Musical movie turned 10 years old. You can't say it's too early to tell if its Abercrombie-and-abs male lead, one Zac Efron — the costar of this weekend's *Dirty Grandpa*, in which he parties with Robert De Niro — is secretly a talented thespian. After all, he's been in the game since the 1989 TV movie *Triple Play*. He should have figured out what he's capable of by now — or at the very least, we should have figured out what we think about him.

And yet it's still hard to tell. This much we do know: When he's making fun of himself and his bro-ish stature, he's very good.

When he popped up as a Pabst-crushing, devious frat



Zac Efron stars alongside Robert De Niro in the spring break comedy *Dirty Grandpa*. CONTRIBUTED

lord in *Neighbors*, it was a revelation. Not only did he prove a fine, smarmy foil to Seth Rogan's discombobulating young dad, but he quietly telegraphed a real panic: Maybe boozing through college was his peak. Maybe he can do

nothing but take his shirt off. You could even sense the real Efron freaking out underneath his perfectly sculpted figure and six-pack abs.

He had good reason to worry: When he's tried for serious and/or indie roles —

in Richard Linklater's *Me and Orson Welles*, in Ramin Bahrani's *At Any Price* — he was bland and vacant.

Director Lee Daniels used that well in his reliably insane *The Paperboy*, in which the pretty boy did little but

bop about in his tighty-whities and, in one scene we still can't believe exists, got peed on by Nicole Kidman. (He'd just been stung by a jellyfish. It totally makes sense.)

When he tried to cut loose, with the rom-com *The Awkward Moment*, he came off as heartless, not funny and charming. (Please read Bilge Ebiri's brilliant review, which jokingly reads it as a dark drama about a predatory sociopath.)

And yet this summer he surprised us again. Yes, everyone hated the DJ drama *We Are Your Friends*, and it had one of the worst openings of any wide release in history. But Efron actually found a touching soulfulness to his young, precocious and foolish aspiring music maker, subtly — subtly! Zac Efron can be subtle! — conveying that point in dumb youth when we realize everything we assumed about ourselves and our futures is wrong. It suggested he might, in the right hands, as he comes upon his 30s, evolve into a strong dramatic actor — or at least better than he was as a soldier in the Nicholas Sparks outing *The Lucky One*.

A LOOK BACK

Zac Efron's past roles:

17 Again (2009)

Early in his career Efron was happy to take shallow parts typecasting himself as a pretty boy heartthrob with funny one-liners. It's a card he played well in *17 Again*, where a 37-year-old is reincarnated as a 17-year-old.

Charlie St. Cloud (2009)

Even though comedy is where he shines, Efron took on a more serious role in this Nicholas Sparks adaptation about a young sailor who talks to his younger brother, who died in a car crash. The movie is so cheesy it's hard to watch.

New Year's Eve (2011)

In this movie, Efron plays a delivery dude tasked with helping a record exec complete a list of crazy resolutions before midnight. Efron is doing what he does best: serving as the humourous eye-candy. EMILY LAURENCE/METRO NEW YORK

Robert De Niro Zac Efron

Dirty Grandpa

Jason is ready for adulthood. His grandpa isn't.

#DirtyGrandpa

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YOU'RE WELCOME

Ranking Efron's best topless scenes

Emily Laurence
Metro | New York



Zac Efron is more than just a pretty face. His body is desktop-background worthy, too. After studying Efron's, er, body of work, we roundup his absolute best shirtless scenes.

1. Neighbors

Efron is at his shirtless peak as the frat bro in *Neighbors*. It's no wonder at the end of the

film, his character finds his true calling: as an Abercrombie & Fitch greeter.

2. The Lucky One

This Nicholas Sparks adaptation is almost too cheesy to watch. The movie has few redeeming qualities, but it does gift us with Efron's hottest sex scene yet.

3. Dirty Grandpa

Whoever came up with the idea to make Efron do the macarena half-naked deserves a sincere

slow clap. What would *Dirty Grandpa* be without that scene?

4. That Awkward Moment

Efron's shirtless scene in this movie was so good that he won an MTV Movie Award for it. He even manages to look sexy while planking a toilet.

5. The Paperboy

This time, Efron is naked and wet. Normally tighty-whities on a grown man are unappealing, but Nicole Kidman doesn't mind and neither do we.



Efron plays a shirtless frat bro in *Neighbors*. CONTRIBUTED

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T	A	G	O	I	M	E	L	G	A		6	3	1	4	9	8	7	5	2
P	R	I	A	L	P	O	K	E	R	S	2	4	9	3	5	7	6	1	8
K	A	M	T	P	E	K	E	R	T		1	6	5	9	8	2	3	4	7
A	L	I	R	E	A	A	L	E	K	O	7	8	3	6	4	1	5	2	9
S	E	P	E	R	V	O	I	C	E	S	8	9	2	5	7	6	1	3	4
E	S	P	E	R	I	T	E	R		5	1	4	8	3	9	2	7	6	
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Window into iconic Japanese sites, experiences

Jennifer Foden
For Metro Canada

There wasn't an obvious abundance of red and white patches on backpacks, but I knew (from the stats) that Canadian travellers had been visiting Japan in record numbers.

I decided to explore the country for myself. Spoiler alert: once-in-a-lifetime cultural experiences ahead.

Monks praying in Koyasan
One of my first stops was

Koyasan, a mountain area considered to be one of the most sacred places in Japan. Koyasan was full of surprises: from riding the train up the 800 metre Mount Koya to visiting the Oku-no-in Cemetery (which has more than 200,000 tombstones and 10,000 burning lanterns in the Hall of Lamps) to my overnight stay in a mountain temple.

The highlight was watching Buddhist monks pray in the morning. The entire ceremony was mesmerizing, from the chanting and banging of the drum, to the billowing smoke from the fire.

Observing maiko in Kyoto
Kyoto, 500 km from Tokyo, has

plenty of impressive sights, including the iconic Fushimi Inari shrine. Its is also the birthplace of geiko (geisha) and maiko (apprentice geiko), traditional female entertainers and performers who still work in Kyoto and serve as cultural icons for the entire country.

In modern times, geisha are less common, with less than 250 of them in Kyoto, and teahouses where they can be seen generally don't accept guests without references (however, there are a few hotels that will arrange this for you). Having the chance to observe one of these face-painted beauties was like catching a glimpse of

a secret society.

Soaking in the natural hot springs in Hakone

Approximately 80 km south-west of Tokyo is Hakone, a charming, mountainous town with spectacular Mount Fuji views and natural hot spring resorts. I stayed in a traditional ryokan (Japanese inn) and soaked my body in indoor and outdoor onsen (natural hot springs).

Some resorts won't allow bathers with tattoos, as they are associated with the Yakuza crime gangs. Be sure to check with staff. Also, be prepared to bare all: bathing suits are not normally allowed (although, don't fret: men and women bathe separately).

This writer was a guest of G Adventures. They did not review or approve this story.

22K

Almost 22,000 Canadians visited Japan last October, almost a quarter more over the same time last year.

+ JAPAN NOT IN THE BUDGET THIS YEAR ?

Japanese kabuki set to perform in Las Vegas

Japan's elaborate all-male kabuki theatre is heading to glitzy Las Vegas for a series of shows, in a bid to spread the classical Japanese art form to a global audience.

Japanese film and theatre company Shochiku said it would present the Japan Kabuki Festival in May, including a new play "created specifically" for a theatre in the U.S. entertainment centre. Kabuki is a form of traditional Japanese theatre that has been performed since the 17th century. Though women appeared in the beginning, kabuki shows came to be all-male



Kabuki actor Ichikawa Somegoro. AFP

affairs combining dance, drama and music with men playing female roles.

The actors, scions of families of kabuki performers who usually begin training in childhood, don elaborate costumes, wigs and heavy makeup for performances on equally elaborate sets. AFP



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TRAVEL NOTES

Huge new thermal bath-and-spa complex opens in Bucharest

Austria's A-Heat Group has opened a giant thermal bath-and-spa complex in Romania that it says is the largest in Europe. The US \$55 million centre, which

opened recently just north of Bucharest, uses hot water pumped up from more than 3 kilometres underground and cooled to a constant 33 degrees Celsius in its eight pools.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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AIRFORDABLE

New site lets flyers pay for tickets on layaway

A startup company has come up with a solution for cash-strapped travelers with a payment plan that allows flyers to pay for their ticket in instalments.

Launched last month out of Chicago, Airfordable is aimed at credit card-less travelers such as students or those with poor credit and allows them to pay for their tickets in a scheme akin to layaway programs at retail stores.

After finding a flight from any website, users upload a screenshot to the Airfordable platform, which then offers up a variety of different payment plans.

Users pay a third of the cost upfront as a deposit and can pay for the balance of the ticket in instalments before their travel date.

The birth of Airfordable can be traced back to founder Ama Marfo's student days, when she was living in the U.S. as an international student from Ghana.

In a blog post, Marfo explains that the idea came to her when a friend was forced to sit out a trip Marfo had organized to



Cape Coast Castle in Ghana. Ama Marfo said she started Airfordable because as a student she didn't have money to fly home to Ghana on breaks. ISTOCK

20%

The scheme doesn't collect interest, but charges a service fee of 20 per cent, which is spread out into monthly payments.

Ghana, because she couldn't afford the plane ticket. Prohibitively expensive plane tickets also forced Marfo to spend holi-

days in her dorm alone, far from her family in Ghana, she says.

"If Airfordable were around during my college days, my friend could've explored, first-hand, the rich culture of Ghana and international students could've had an affordable way to spend special holidays in their respective countries," Marfo writes. The limit for airline tickets is \$2,000 US and flights must be booked a minimum of two months' out.

AFP

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Habs GM Marc Bergevin says Carey Price will be out up to four more weeks and coach Michel Therrien's job is safe for the rest of the season



NHL SENS BURNED OUT OF THE GATE Joseph Blandisi of the Devils scores his first career NHL goal against Senators goalie Craig Anderson on Thursday in Newark, N.J. The Devils went off for five first-period goals. For the story, go to metronews.ca. JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raonic gets by with 24 aces up his sleeve

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Canuck breaks foe's serve just once but wins in straight sets

Canadian Milos Raonic had to rely on his big serve for support in a 7-6 (6), 7-6 (5), 7-5 defeat of Spain's Tommy Robredo at the Australian Open Thursday. The 13th seed, from Thornhill, Ont., produced 24 aces in a marathon effort to reach the third round for a sixth consecutive year. The 25-year-old Raonic improved his perfect record against Robredo to 6-0 after defeating the veteran three times in 2015.

The contest lasted two hours 55 minutes, with Raonic going through from 75 winners, but only one break of serve in the final game. He now stands 16-5 over his career at the tour-

namment and 6-0 in 2016 after earlier defeating Roger Federer for the Brisbane title.

Raonic finally finished his effort with Robredo spraying a return long.

"I don't think I played as clean as I would have liked. But at the end of the day, the most important thing is I got the win," Raonic said. "I feel like I'm playing well. I feel like I can put forth that tennis."

Raonic made the match look like hard work at times, as he and Robredo limited their attacks to duels from



6
The number of matches Raonic has played in — and won — to begin 2016.

the baseline as clouds gave way to weak sunshine at Melbourne Park.

Each of the first two sets took at least one hour, with Raonic squeezing through in tiebreakers after missing on seven break chances in the

opening set and taking the lead after five set points.

Things got slightly less complicated in the second set, requiring only one set point to win it for a two-sets-to-love lead.

"I felt maybe I let down a little bit after I missed all those breakpoints in the first set," Raonic said. "I felt I was forcing it a bit too much. I was trying to sort of lug the ball around more than playing a little bit more smoothly like I had in my previous matches."

Raonic is trying to follow up on his best career result in Melbourne after advancing into the quarter-finals last season where he lost to Novak Djokovic.

"The first week the most important thing always is to find a way to win. Hopefully if I'm alive and around, I can play better and better each match. Hopefully that can take me far."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FIGURE SKATING

Osmond eyes title after bad break

At this time last year, Kaetlyn Osmond was on vacation in Mexico, on a self-imposed exile from the figure skating world.

She'd left her cellphone and laptop back in Edmonton. And when Gabrielle Daleman won the Canadian women's title, Osmond purposely wasn't paying attention.

"Missing it was really, really hard. So I actually disappeared for a week so I didn't have to deal with it," Osmond said.

The two-time national champion is out to reclaim her Canadian title this week in Halifax, continuing her return from a gruesome broken leg that knocked her out for all of last season and had her wondering if she'd ever skate again.

"When I heard the severity of

it, I thought that was it, that was all I could handle," the 20-year-old Osmond said.

She broke the fibula in her right leg in two places in September of 2014, when she swerved to avoid hitting someone in practice. The X-ray showed the bones snapped "crooked and sideways."

"I was scared to even step on my leg, let alone even try to skate again," Osmond said of her recovery. "And when I got back on the ice, my

first couple of steps, my blade just shook underneath me. It took me about two weeks before I could even do a three-turn (turning from forward to backward) again.

"So it was a long time coming, but I'm back." THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I thought that was it, that was all I could handle."
Kaetlyn Osmond



Kaetlyn Osmond takes to the air during practice on Thursday in Halifax. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB IN BRIEF

Donaldson to make cameo appearance on TV show

The TV series Vikings is bringing in a heavy hitter for its new season.

Toronto Blue Jays slugger Josh Donaldson is heading to Ireland this week to film an episode of the History show.

The reigning American League MVP is apparently a big fan the Canadian-Irish drama.

History says Donaldson will play the role of Horskuld, a Viking warrior. The episode is set to air later this year as part of the fourth season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chapman free of charges

Florida prosecutors have decided not to file charges in a domestic disturbance case involving New York Yankees pitcher Aroldis Chapman and his girlfriend.

According to a police report, Chapman's girlfriend, 22-year-old Cristina Barnea, told police he pushed and choked her. Chapman said there was an argument, but he said he was pushed down by Barnea's brother. Chapman said he eventually got a handgun and fired eight shots into a wall and window while locked in his garage. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Big kid' Cam so confident

NFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

QB Newton says he doesn't get nervous as Arizona awaits

In the waning moments of a strange 35-35 game against the New York Giants, as things seemed to be collapsing all around him and tempers were flaring after every whistle, Cam Newton stood calmly on the sideline, his hands tucked firmly inside his shoulder pads near his neck as he nodded his head confidently.

Sure, the Carolina Panthers had just squandered a 28-point lead on the road, but Newton's locked-in facial expression was that of a man who seemed to know he had the game in the bag. He just knew. Such is the demeanour of Newton, who has gone from Heisman Trophy winner and national champion at Auburn to No. 1 pick in the draft and now, in his fifth season, a leading MVP candidate for the NFL's best team.

"I don't get nervous," Newton said bluntly. "I've been playing

football too long for me to get nervous. I have dreamed of being in this position."

Newton is in position to get the Panthers to the Super Bowl for the first time since 2003. All that stands in the way is the Arizona Cardinals in the NFC championship game on Sunday.

"This," Newton said, "is why you play football." Newton's confidence is on display weekly.

It's there when he breaks the huddle, saunters up the line and looks over the defence.

It's there when he shakes off a 280-pound defensive end — what other quarterback not named Roethlisberger does that? — and finds an open receiver down the field. Centre Ryan Kalil said Newton hasn't changed an iota as a person

since coming into the league in 2011, but what changed is his self-confidence — particularly in a season when he became the first QB to throw for 35 touchdowns and run for 10 in a season. "Honestly that comes from experience and playing more football. He's grown up," said Kalil.

Well, sort of. Panthers coach Ron Rivera calls Newton a "big kid" who likes to enjoy himself on the field. During training camp Newton can be seen singing on the field between plays or with his arms spread pretending to fly like a bird as he runs.

"When you see me play, you see a kid out there," Newton said. "Some people call it immaturity, I could care less." What opponents see is Newton's energy and how it makes those around him better. "It's contagious," Arizona defensive tackle Calais Campbell said.

"You can see the whole team feeds off of it. That's what you want from your quarterback — a guy that's going to bring the fire and lead the troops. I think the heart of their team definitely feeds off of his energy."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Cam Newton became the first QB to throw for 35 TDs and run for 10 in a season. GRANT HALVERSON/GETTY IMAGES

+ AFC

Trash talk aimed at Pats ahead of Denver test

Gronk pushes off. Brady whines. If it's AFC championship week, somebody must be complaining about the New England Patriots.

This time around, it's the Denver Broncos, who have delivered a few hits through the media in a not-so-subtle attempt to get inside the heads of both the Patriots and, quite possibly, the officials who will call Sunday's game.

The biggest pokes have, not surprisingly, been directed at Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski, with the Broncos suggesting he likes to push off and how it's really best to tackle him by going after his delicate knees. Tom Brady took some shots, too, labelled a crybaby for complaining to refs. These early week doses of trash talk have calmed down now that the real preparation has begun. Still, they've made for a decent story line to go beside the hundreds of different takes on Tom Brady vs. Peyton Manning, Part 17. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Canada's driver Kaillie Humphries, right, and brakeman Melissa Lotholz hug after winning the women's bobsled World Cup race on Jan. 15 in Utah. RICK BOWMER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOBSELED WORLD CUP

Humphries returns to 'special' Whistler

Before her Olympic gold medals, before her world championship titles, before being named Canadian athlete of the year, Kaillie Humphries was just another bobsledder thinking big and honing her craft at the Whistler Sliding Centre.

"This was where I set my dreams and goals," said Humphries. "This place has, and will always have, a special place in my heart." The Calgary native became a household name after winning women's gold at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, and

she will race the same Whistler track that helped make her famous this weekend as the World Cup circuit returns to this resort town for the first time in four years.

"It taught me to be the driver I am. It's challenging and it's very fast," Humphries said of the 16-corner, 1,450-metre track.

Humphries won back-to-back world championships in 2012

and 2013, and successfully defended her Olympic gold at the Sochi Games on the way to capturing the Lou Marsh award as Canada's top athlete in 2014.

The 30-year-old owns 35 career World Cup medals, including 16 gold, but was coming off a frustrating campaign heading into this season after failing to win a single

race in 2014-15. Humphries still managed to finish second in the overall standings thanks to four podium finishes, and along with brakeman Melissa Lotholz of Barrhead, Alta., is firing on all cylinders this season with three golds, a silver and a bronze through five events.

"The results speak for themselves in regards to the hard work," said Humphries, who has two World Cup wins at Whistler. "This is a long time coming in the process, and it's going to keep going." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Bills owner lauds Kathryn Smith for earning promotion

Buffalo Bills co-owner Kim Pegula is congratulating Kathryn Smith for becoming the NFL's first full-time female assistant coach.

Pegula said in a statement released on Thursday that Smith "has proven that she does excellent work" during seven years on Rex Ryan's staff. Pegula says that while she understands the significance of the announcement, it's vital to understand that Smith earned the job by being qualified and dedicated. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Davis becomes highest-paid Orioles player of all time

Chris Davis has signed the richest contract in the history of the Baltimore Orioles.

The defending major league home run champion put his name on a seven-year pact that will pay him \$161 million. Davis became a free agent after the 2015 season and was pursued heavily by the Orioles, who finally struck a deal Saturday pending a medical examination.

The agreement became official Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McIlroy showing fine form in Abu Dhabi after surgery

Rory McIlroy began 2016 with a masterful display of driving to set up a 6-under 66 at the Abu Dhabi Championship, upstaging top-ranked playing partner Jordan Spieth in the first round on Thursday.

McIlroy was two strokes behind early leader Bryson DeChambeau (64), the U.S. Amateur champion, after rolling in eight birdies in his first appearance after two months off, during which he underwent laser eye surgery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retiring Kobe top vote-getter for NBA All-Star starters

Kobe Bryant is the leading vote-getter for his final NBA All-Star Game, and Kawhi Leonard and Kyle Lowry made late moves to join him in the starting lineup.

MVP Stephen Curry of Golden State was just behind Kobe in votes and will be joined in the Western Conference lineup by Oklahoma City's Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook. Cavs' LeBron James and Indiana's Paul George will start in the East frontcourt among others. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Pepperoni Pizza Grilled Cheese



PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

• Extra Virgin Olive Oil

Directions

1. Preheat a skillet over medium heat with a drizzle of olive oil.
2. Butter one side of each slice of bread. Place pieces of bread butter side down on a clean surface or cutting board. In a small bowl, mix ricotta with basil pieces. Spread one slice of bread with about a tablespoon of ricotta. Place one slice of mozzarella on ricotta cheese. Now place a layer of 8 to 10 pieces of pepperoni down. Lay a slice of fontina on other slice of bread. Close sandwich and place in skillet.
3. Grill until lightly browned and then flip over; continue grilling until cheese is melted and gooey. Repeat for second sandwich.

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It's Friday and you've earned an easy dinner. Rather than ordering in pizza, whip up this ooey-goopy pizza-themed grilled cheese.

Ready in

Prep time: 10 minutes
Total time: 20 minutes
Makes 2 sandwiches

Ingredients

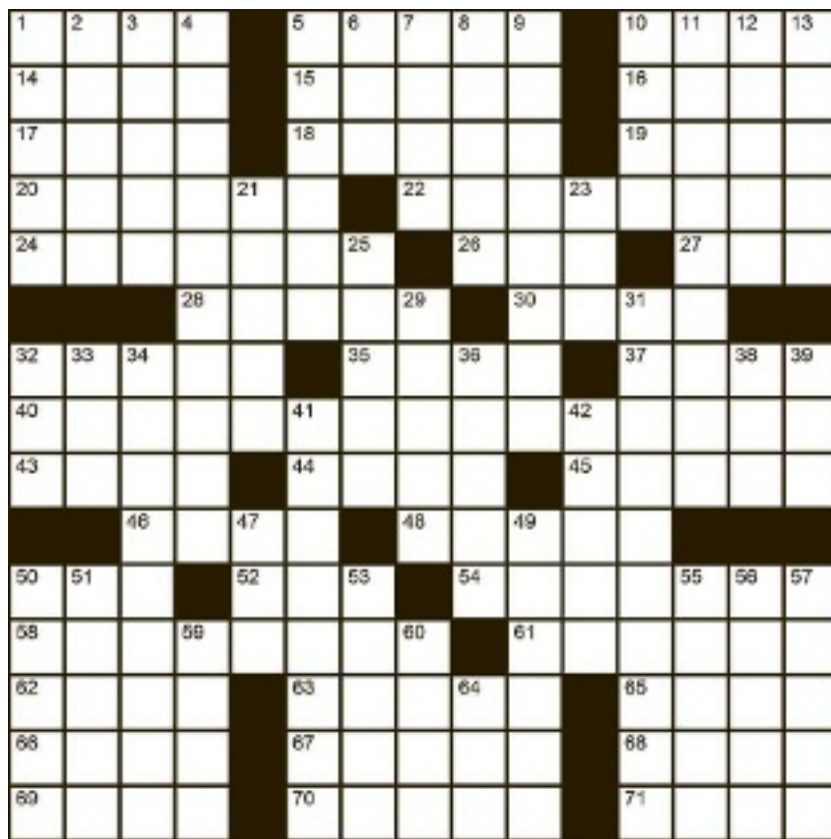
- 4 slices of sourdough or wholegrain bread
- 2 tsp garlic butter
- 1/2 cup ricotta cheese
- 4 basil leaves, torn into small pieces
- 2 slices mozzarella cheese
- 16 to 20 slices of pepperoni
- 2 slices fontina cheese

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Goulash
5. __ rug
10. In __ (Up the proverbial creek)
14. Johnny Carson's predecessor Jack
15. Canadian performers' union
16. __ -'shanter
17. Dugout shelter
18. "Every __ Way But Loose" (1978) starring Clint Eastwood
19. Mr. Seacrest
20. "That's for darn sure!": 2 wds.
22. Seedy part of town, __ - district
24. Gets comfy
26. Game cube
27. Singer Mr. Jarreau's
28. Thin piece of wood
30. Type of tape
32. Lei-wearer's greeting
35. Space mission org.
37. City in Europe once called Christiania
40. Parliament Hill: Where Canada's fallen soldiers are honoured in the Peace Tower: 2 wds.
43. Etre - Present: Je suis ...lls __
44. Cairo's river
45. 'Twilight' books author Stephenie
46. Time __ the essence
48. Accessory for 'meshy' hair
50. Increase, with Up



52. Dustup
54. Signs up
58. Guacamole ingredients
61. Inwardly boil
62. Plain
63. Clear
65. Aquarium fish, __ Tetra
66. Seaport of

- Yemen
67. Fashionably prance
68. 'Smart' suffix (Brains)
69. Quiz
70. Emperors like Genghis
71. Dueling sword

DOWN

1. Barcelona's country
2. Dinette set piece
3. British peers
4. Some puck-propelling moves in hockey: 2 wds.
5. "Tom __" by Rush
6. German 'I'

7. Awaken
8. Curved
9. Hoity-toity
10. Longfellow's bell town
11. Starring role for Canadian actor James Rennie (b.1890 - d.1965) in the 1926 Broadway adaptation of F. Scott

- Fitzgerald's 'Great' 1925 book: 2 wds.
12. Menotti opera, __ and the Night Visitors
13. Montreal's 'Royal', and others in French
21. "...I thee wed." locale
23. Romanian currency
25. __ Peninsula, in Egypt
29. Gets boring
31. Canada's Caroline Rhea, for one
32. Day-starting hrs.
33. Mr. Tolstoy
34. Those who dine on both animal cadavers and plants
36. Vista
38. Author Harper
39. Bruins legend Bobby
41. Where pamphlets, directions, answers to questions, etc. might be provided in a public building: 2 wds.
42. Arcade game, Whac- __
47. British singer Rita
49. Early stages of things
50. Morocco's capital
51. Circumvent
53. Something's value
55. Acutely alpine
56. Things over there
57. Gumption
59. Rapper 50
60. Fleetwood Mac hit
64. Big bright blaz- ing ball

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Don't limit yourself to tried and trusted ways of doing things today. If you are open to new possibilities you may come up with new ideas and impress people in positions of power.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Be true to your beliefs, even if it brings you into conflict with people you would prefer not to antagonise. You're entitled to your opinions and have the right to think for yourself.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You've been ignoring warning signs and pretending that nothing can go wrong. The planets warn if what you ignore can in some way affect your earning power it could cost you. Get your act together before it's too late.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If you don't feel like pushing yourself today, then don't. If you're given the choice between doing more or less, choose the latter without hesitation.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You may find it hard to think outside the box today and could reject good ideas simply because you don't have the confidence to make something of them. That would be a shame.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Be careful what you allow yourself to believe because the facts are not as obvious as you would like them to be. With Mercury, planet of the mind, still moving retrograde you must not take anything on trust, not even your own ideas!

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
There is no point aiming for perfection because you will never reach it. All you can do is aim to be the best at what you do and to be happy with that. Set yourself new goals.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may be bored with your current situation but what happens next will cheer you up. When Mercury, planet of the mind, turns in your favour again on Monday life will become a lot more fun than it has been of late.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may be pessimistic about money matters and that's fine. The last thing you need is to take some kind of gamble, because it's unlikely to pay off. Keep your cash in your pocket.

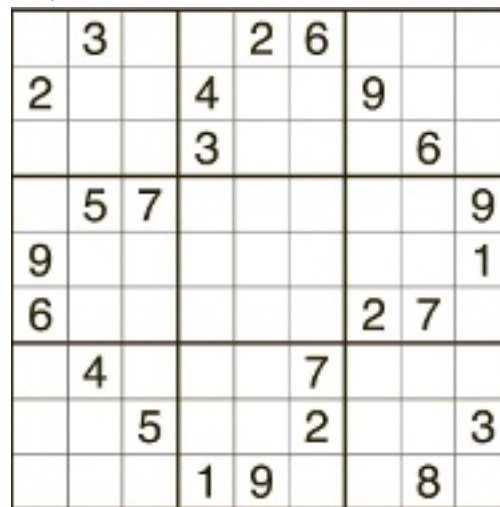
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
So long as you enjoy what you are doing it doesn't matter what anyone else thinks about it. You've been taking other people's opinions into account too much lately.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will be concerned with ideas and their practical application today but don't get so bogged down in your own thoughts that you miss what is taking place in the world around you.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Your life will change for the better but you should not be waiting for things to happen, you should be making them happen. Upcoming events will give you a more positive outlook. After that it's up to you.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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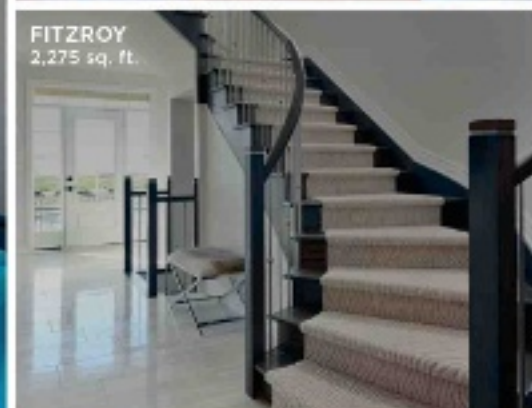


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